

## RUTH BRYAN OWEN

(From Evansville, Ind., Courier, August 5.)

Mrs. Reginald Bryan Owen (Ruth Bryan), daughter of William Jennings Bryan, the American statesman and orator, is a motion picture director, a lecturer, a student of oriental customs, an author, a feminist, the mother of four children and the wife of Major Owen of the royal engineers, British army.

Mrs. Owen, who spoke at the Grandview chautauqua Thursday afternoon, spent Thursday night at the Vendome hotel, to meet her father, who is expected to arrive in Evansville at 7:55 o'clock Friday morning to fill a speaking engagement at Expo park. Mrs. Owen will leave at 9 o'clock Friday morning for Rockville, Ill., where she will lecture Friday night.

Those who would think of Mrs. Owen merely as the daughter of Mr. Bryan have not thought at all. She is a worker and a thinker on her own account, and is just as original as her father has been.

"How was she dressed?" In perfect taste. But that is of minor im-

portance in an interview with Mrs. Owen. One wants to know what she has done, and is surprised almost to death when he learns.

## IS A REGULAR BRYAN

She is truly a Bryan in stature, possessing energy which is never taxed to capacity, even by the strenuous life she lives. One feels sure of that.

Mrs. Owen was a war worker in London at the outbreak of the war. In 1915 she went to Egypt and was with the British army as a nurse in the campaigns around the Dardanelles and Palestine. At Port Said she organized a concert tour for the entertainment of the soldiers, and also had a concert company of her own. Major Owen received five citations for gallant service and at the signing of the armistice was forced to go on sick leave. He and Mrs. Owen made a tour of the world and are now residing in Florida, where the major is improving in health.

Last winter Mrs. Owen produced a motion picture under her own direction, entitled "Once Upon a Time." It is based upon a story in the "Arabian Nights." The version of the story is the director's own. D. W. Griffith will see the picture in New York next week and will offer his comment. The film is to be released in the fall by one of the large companies.

## PRODUCES PICTURES FOR CHILDREN

Mrs. Owen expects to direct more pictures in the future. She is interested in a special field, that of producing films which contain beautiful things for children. She finds that this field has been scarcely touched.

"I am impressed by the scope of the motion picture, especially in an educational way," she said.

About her father she would say but little. She expressed her admiration, however, and said she agreed with just about everything Mr. Bryan has done.

In answer to questions about the "Commoner" she would say:

"I prefer not to answer that, I do not wish to seem to boast about father."

## FATHER'S HOLD ON PUBLIC

"How do you account for his hold upon the affections of the people through the ups and downs of such a long public career?" she was asked, and after a little hesitation, answered:

"I think it was because he practiced what he preached. He started out in life with high ideals and he has kept them."

On the subject of her little eight months old daughter there was less restraint. No public will think a mother is boastful if she tells of her baby.

And such a dear, sweet little girl. The picture which Mrs. Owen carried should be used as the frontispiece for Robert Louis Stevenson's "A child's Garden of Verses." The look on the child's face questioned plainly enough.

"Isn't the photographer man silly? What in the world is he doing, anyway?"

It's a cinch from the photo that W. J. Bryan will be well represented three generations hence.

## COMMONER'S WIFE A LAWYER

Many people do not know that Mrs. Bryan, the Commoner's wife, studied law and was admitted to the bar shortly after her marriage and that even yet, although in poor health, she works at a double desk by her husband.

Mrs. Owen is very much interested in her father's work for international peace. She believes that war is fundamentally wrong and a very crude way to settle the right.

Blue eyes, brown hair, colorful complexion, a terse interest, a sympathetic smile, and a build—if one may call it that—which is a perpetual challenge to a game of tennis, that is Mrs. Reginald Bryan Owen.

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